



HARD HITTER

ANDERSON SILVA IS AMONG THE UFC STARS WHO MAY BE COMING TO TOWN AS SHOOTING BEGINS ON A MIXED MARTIAL ARTS-THEMED MOVIE PAGE 4



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LONDON

metro

Wednesday, September 5, 2012



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PARTI QUÉBÉCOIS CLAIMS POWER

Parti Québécois supporters cheer as election results are announced in Montreal on Tuesday. The independence-seeking party, led by Pauline Marois, won the plurality of seats in the provincial election. The party has won four majorities in its history, but never a minority. For more coverage of the election results, visit metronews.ca. GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Plebiscites a no-go

Proposal rejected.

City committee's stance comes as Coun. Stephen Orser asks colleagues to 'let 'em vote' in 2014

A city council committee firmly shot down a Monday proposal to put three ballot questions before voters in 2014.

Coun. Stephen Orser wanted people to have a say on adding fluoride to water, making city council full-time and plotting the course of no tax increases through 2018.

He pitched the idea to council's finance and administration committee, calling a public vote a "principal of basic democracy" and saying, if nothing else, the ballot questions could improve voter turnout. The results, he said, would give councillors "a clear mandate from the voters."

The votes wouldn't have been binding unless turnout reached 50 per cent. About 40 per cent of voters came to the polls during the last municipal election in October 2010.

Councillors raised several objections to the questions.

The issue of making city council full-time has been

In other news

Council's finance and administration committee inched forward Monday on proposals from Coun. Joni Baechler that would:

- Establish an integrity commissioner
- Create a registry of lobbyists approaching councillors
- Create a policy asking that councillors voluntarily put a list of money-related disclosures on file at city hall

discussed and isn't feasible, some said, because there's no way to determine what constitutes full-time versus part-time work.

Formally making council posts "full-time" is really about more pay, Coun. Joni Baechler said. "You can be full-time all you want; you don't have to ask our permission," she said.

Asking people about future tax increases isn't a fair question because there are too many unknowns, several councillors said. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO



LONDON'S NEW
#1 HIT MUSIC
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They're so Hot right now

Profit mag rankings.
Local companies make it on list of young firms seeing success



ANGELA MULLINS

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The next time you swipe your debit card or take a health-and-safety training course online, you could very well be adding to the portfolio of London businesses lauded as two of the fastest-growing in Canada.

Online Learning Enterprises and Zomaron Merchant Services have been ranked 14th and 15th, respectively, on Profit magazine's 2012 Hot 50 list. The rankings are based on two-year revenue growth at budding businesses.

Online Learning Enterprises, which produces occupational health videos ranging from proper forklift operation to safe lifting, brought in \$766,993 last year and saw revenue grow 667 per cent between 2009 and 2011.

Zomaron, a credit- and debit-card processing company, recorded \$739,908 in revenue for 2011 — a two-year growth of 640 per cent.

Both companies started in



Mark Lisburn, CEO of Online Learning Enterprises. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

2009 as the economy was tanking and others were pulling back on expansions or cutting costs. That proved a bonus for the entrepreneurs.

Zomaron prides itself on offering cheap point-of-sale service, something that went a long way toward marketing itself to businesses keeping a close eye on the bottom line.

"There isn't a single merchant that we talk to that we cannot save money," CEO Tarique Al-Ansari said. "The biggest challenge is getting our name out there. It's awards like this that will set us apart from the competition."

Focusing on building a solid sales staff and keeping overhead low have also been keys to success that's seen Zomaron open offices in Toronto, Ed-



Tarique Al-Ansari, CEO of Zomaron Merchant Services, left, and Joseph Jongsma, the company's executive vice-president, are shown at the company's head office in London with their latest product, which turns smartphones into credit- and debit-card processing machines. CONTRIBUTED

monton, and Montreal, Al-Ansari said. A fifth office will open soon in Victoria.

Online Learning Enterprises was built around the idea of expanding and offering something clients asked for

— training that didn't involve classrooms. Outsourcing work like video production and selling finished training courses to competitors has been key to the company's success, said CEO Mark Lisburn.

The company is planning a push into U.S. markets soon.

"The most important thing in business is momentum," Lisburn said. "You can't ever get in the way of momentum. You can't get complacent."

Mobile news



And so the Democratic National Convention begins. Scan the code to find out what first lady Michelle Obama had to say on Day 1 of the event.



Joe Fontana METRO FILE

Students seem cool with mayor's speech

The start of a new school year has brought with it the start of a new controversy for Joe Fontana.

London's mayor allegedly used some colourful language Monday night while speaking on stage to more than 6,000 students at Western University during an orientation week event.

"I know the president of your school wants you to study hard, but that's all bulls-t. You should just have fun."

That's what Jasper Lee,

The people liked it

"He got a standing ovation!"

Susan Grindrod, assistant vice-president of housing and ancillary services at Western University, on Joe Fontana's speech

a first-year student at Western University heard. Dozens of other students repeated variations of the same quote on Twitter almost immediately after the mayor had finished speaking.

"I think this mayor is a really cool guy," said Lee.

"Obviously, to become mayor, he didn't just party and have fun. Clearly, he worked hard to get to that position. Just the fact he would tell us to take it easy for the first week, and have lots of fun — I think that's a really sick thing he did."

In an interview with AM

980, Fontana brushed off any controversy.

"It was a light-hearted moment ... in the spirit of that great event," Fontana said. "It might not have been the most appropriate phrase to use, but I was trying to make a point and was trying to have some fun."

Officials at Western would not address the nature of Fontana's comments, but did say the mayor's speech was well-received by students in attendance. AM980/AM980.CA

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CBA negotiations. Local NHL pre-season game in limbo

As the NHL and its players' association continue to butt heads over a new collective bargaining agreement, the John Labatt Centre is left twiddling its thumbs, so to speak.

London's premier entertainment facility, which hosts an NHL pre-season game each year, is presently operating under the business-as-usual philosophy. "Basically, a decision won't be made (about possibly cancelling the game) until that point in time," JLC general manager Brian Ohl said, referring to the current CBA's ex-

Tradition

- The Philadelphia Flyers have played an exhibition game each year in the Forest City for nearly a decade.

piration date of Sept. 15.

The Sept. 26 exhibition game between the Philadelphia Flyers and Toronto Maple Leafs is still on, Ohl says, pending a work stoppage.

JOHN MATISZ/METRO

Cyclist struck

Police seek driver in hit-and-run

London police continue to investigate a hit-and-run involving a cyclist on Friday around 4:30 p.m.

A cyclist riding near the curb southbound along Wharncliffe Road was struck by a southbound car near the Springbank Avenue intersection.

He was knocked off his bike, injuring his left leg, hand and elbow. METRO

Two byelections

Premiereyesmajority

Premier Dalton McGuinty is making a pitch for a majority government ahead of two potentially game-changing Ontario byelections this week, in Vaughan and Kitchener-Waterloo.

McGuinty says he's focused on his mandate to reduce the deficit and policies like the anti-strike legislation for teachers. He says it would be easier to do those things with a majority. THE CANADIAN PRESS

UFC superstar Anderson Silva London-bound to shoot movie?

Locals invited to be extras. A film crew is heading to downtown London to shoot the MMA-themed Tapped



JOHN MATISZ

john.matisz@metronews.ca

Ultimate Fighting Championship icon Anderson Silva — along with a handful of "big celebrities" — is starring in a Hollywood motion picture

Choice city

"The tax exemptions are great, the mayor has been great — he's very excited. Tourism London is excited. Everybody has just been very accommodating to us. It also represents a very Michigan feel."

Allan Ungar, director of Tapped, on why Tapped Pictures chose London.

that will be partly produced in London over the next couple of months.

Tapped, scheduled to arrive in theatres next year, will be filmed in downtown London beginning Monday through mid-October.

"We're not at liberty to discuss the logistics and budgets, but we've been told it's the biggest film that has been shot in London," said Allan Ungar, director of Tapped.

Other UFC stars, namely Lyoto Machida and Krzysztof Soszynski, will appear in the "Karate Kid meets MMA" full-length movie being produced by Tapped Pictures.

Ungar and company are looking to create a buzz in the local community by inviting out members of the public to act as extras in certain scenes.

"We want people at Fanshawe College to know, at Western University to know, and the locals, too," he said, adding they'll be casting, for the most part, people 15 and older.

Ungar would neither confirm nor deny if Silva, a 37-year-old Brazilian mixed martial artist, will be in town



Mixed martial artist Anderson Silva holds the Knockout of the Year award for his victory over Vitor Belfort at UFC 126 at the Fighters Only World Mixed Martial Arts Awards 2011 in Las Vegas. ETHAN MILLER/GETTY IMAGES

for the London-based productions. He said those details, as well as more concrete information pertaining to extra try-outs, are going to be released over the next couple of weeks.

What's for certain, though, is a world-renowned MMA hub, London's own Adrenaline Training Centre, will be involved in the film — albeit

likely in a minor capacity.

"He's asking me to walk one of the (movie's fighters) down to the cage in one of the scenes," Alex Gasson, a manager at Adrenaline, said when asked about his role.

Follow John Matisz on Twitter @Metro_JMatisz



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Time to nix spanking law: CMA Journal

Criminal Code. Editorial takes aim at the legal defence for physically disciplining children

The Canadian Medical Association Journal says it's time to do away with the Criminal Code's so-called spanking law.

A strongly worded editorial in the journal Tuesday calls for the repeal of Section 43

of the Criminal Code, which gives parents and teachers a legal defence when they physically discipline children.

"It is time for Canada to remove this anachronistic excuse for poor parenting from the statute book," editor-in-chief John Fletcher wrote in a signed editorial.

The editorial will likely reignite debate on a controversial topic that has inflamed opinion for decades.

The Supreme Court of Can-

ada upheld the Criminal Code provision by a 6-3 margin in a landmark 2004 ruling.

The high court ruled that the provision did not infringe a child's right to security of the person under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and does not constitute cruel and unusual punishment.

Several private members' bills to ban corporal punishment have failed in the House of Commons and Senate, most recently in 2008.

In the editorial, Fletcher argues that parents need to be educated on how to discipline their children.

He said the Criminal Code needs to be amended because it tells parents that physical punishment is an acceptable way to discipline children.

"Although it is not necessary to make spanking a crime to encourage alternative approaches to parenting, Section 43 of the Criminal Code of Canada sends the wrong

Quoted

"It is time for Canada to remove this anachronistic excuse for poor parenting from the statute book."

John Fletcher, editor-in-chief of the Canadian Medical Association Journal, in an editorial

message, stating, '... a parent is justified in using force by way of correction ... if the

force does not exceed what is reasonable under the circumstances."

The editorial said that police already have discretion to decide when an assault is trivial, but argued that "any bias" should be aimed at vulnerable children.

"To have a specific code excusing parents is to suggest that assault by a parent is a normal and accepted part of bringing up children. It is not." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Splitting the bill: Japan may pay for tsunami debris cleanup

Ocean debris believed to be from Japan is posed for a photograph on Long Beach in Tofino, B.C., back in April. Officials in British Columbia are welcoming news that the Japanese government may help pay for the disposal of tsunami debris washing up on Canadian and U.S. shores. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ministry investigating

Fish furor: Rotting carcasses inundate Lake Erie shore

Tens of thousands of rotting fish are lining a 40-kilometre stretch of shoreline along Lake Erie, reports the provincial environment ministry, which is investigating the cause.

A spokesperson for the Ontario Ministry of Environment said Tuesday the kill was reported on the weekend. So far it appears the fish may have died from the effects of a naturally occurring lake inversion rather than a spill.

The question now is which agency is responsible for cleaning up the rotting carcasses. The dead fish stretch from west of the fishing village of Port Stanley in Elgin County to the village of Morpeth in Chatham-Kent or just east of Rondeau.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Watershed moment

Scientists gather to save Mackenzie basin from politics

Scientists fear the Mackenzie River Basin, an extensive watershed three times the size of France, is under threat. And starting Tuesday, experts will gather in Vancouver to come up with a suggested management plan for the basin that just might save it from the jurisdictional problems that plague almost every other major watershed in the world.

Currently, the basin falls under the jurisdiction of the federal government, three provincial governments and three territorial governments — and that is the problem, say proponents of an integrated plan.

The river system flows into British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan through Yukon and Nunavut, into the Northwest Territories and to the Arctic Ocean.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Thames Valley District School Board

Strategic Plan

Help Shape the Future of Public Education

The Thames Valley District School Board of Trustees invites your input into the development of a Strategic Plan for the future of public education across the school district.

The Strategic Plan will reflect the mission, vision and strategic direction for the Board.

The plan is being developed through a partnership involving Trustees, the Director of Education, administration, staff, students, parents and our community.

Public meetings are being held to exchange ideas and gather community input. Check the following for times and locations:

Sept. 27, 2012 (register by Sept. 24)
TVDSB Education Centre,
1250 Dundas St., London N6A 5L1

Oct. 4, 2012 (register by Oct. 1)
Ingersoll District Collegiate Institute,
37 Alma St., Ingersoll N5C 1N1

Both meetings will start at 5 p.m. with refreshments at 4:30 p.m. Child care will be provided.

Space is limited so register early. Please provide your name, contact information, date of session and if you are a parent, student (Grades 7-12), TVDSB staff or community member. Please indicate if child care is required.

Contact Michelle Roberts by email, phone or fax at:
michelle.roberts@tvdsb.on.ca
519-452-2000 ext. 20242 Fax: 519-452-2757

Joyce Bennett
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Bill Tucker
Director of Education

Help shape the future of public education in Thames Valley. For more details visit
www.tvdsb.ca/strategicplan

TV ruled Canadian households in 2011: CRTC report

Broadcasting.

Traditional media remains solid despite more online options, wireless devices

Canadians' love affair with television programs remains undiminished, despite the proliferation of new online and wireless platforms that were supposed to threaten traditional media.

The CRTC's new report on the communications industry shows Canadians watched an average of 28.5 hours of TV last year, up 30 minutes from 2010, even though they had more media choices than ever before.

In fact, Canadians increased their TV program viewing even more — if the 2.8 hours spent watching television shows online is included.

Radio listening was also up

Cable nation

There was a six per cent spike, to 27.4 million, in the number of Canadians subscribed to wireless services.

- Meanwhile, 2.2 per cent more Canadians subscribed to basic television services, representing about 90 per cent of the population.
- The only loser was home phone subscriptions, which fell 2.7 per cent to 12.2 million in 2011, continuing a trend.

only more moderately, from 17.6 to 17.7 hours a week.

"The fact that they are spending more time watching or listening to programming is good news for Canadian creators," said Jean-Pierre Blais, chairman of the Canadian

Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission, in the annual report from the federal regulator.

It's also good news for communications companies.

Broadcast revenues climbed 5.5 per cent to \$16.6 billion from 2010, and revenues from telecommunications services increased by 2.5 per cent to \$42.7 billion. On average, consumers spent an average of \$180 a month on services.

Overall, the communications industry accounted for about 4.6 per cent of Canada's gross domestic product in 2011.

The growth in the traditional media occurred even though, as the report shows, Canadians were expanding their use of computers and wireless devices, such as smartphones.

By the end of 2011, 78 per cent of 13.4 million households had an Internet connection, and Canadians continued to migrate to faster services.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Iron Lady's wool suits sold

The turquoise wool suit, left, that former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher wore on the day she was confirmed as Conservative Party leader sold at auction for 25,000 pounds (\$39,670 US) on Monday. Separately, a buyer in South Korea snagged six other striking outfits on auction, all of which were worn by Thatcher in the 1970s before she became prime minister. In total, the outfits fetched a little more than 73,000 pounds — far exceeding the initial estimates of 1,000 to 1,500 pounds for each outfit. SANG TAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

South Africa

Buffalo breeder nets \$3.25M

A young buffalo bull with massive bowed horns sold at auction for a record 26 million rand (\$3.25 million US), the South African Stud Breeders' Association said Tuesday.

Owner Jacques Malan said the almost five-year-old bull called Horizon has horns measuring 130.5 centimetres long and a boss, or horn base, nearly 41 centimetres wide — a South African record for an animal that age.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR
101.44¢ US (-0.01¢)

TSX
11,941.7 (-7.56)

OIL
\$95.30 US (-\$1.17¢)

GOLD
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Natural gas: \$2.85 US (+5¢)
Dow Jones: 13,035.94 (-54.9)

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A SWEET DEBACLE THAT'S LEFT N.Y.C. THIRSTY FOR ANSWERS



JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

*There's battle lines being drawn
Nobody's right if everybody's wrong. ...*
**Buffalo Springfield —
For What It's Worth**

The battle lines are indeed being drawn in New York City in

advance of the vote to ban big sugary drinks in the Big Apple, set for Sept. 13.

WeightWatchers, Jenny Craig, the South Beach Diet, etc., are all lining up alongside Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who wants to make it illegal to sell any sugary drink larger than 16 ounces, or, as we like to say here in Canada, 475 millilitres.

On the other side: New Yorkers for Beverage Choices, which enlists more than 2,000 businesses and a quarter of a million people. According to the New York Times, six in 10 New Yorkers oppose the ban.

Not your sugar daddy

Like every other discussion in the U.S., the battle lines are drawn around individual freedom. You either have the freedom to drink your face off and court obesity, diabetes, heart disease and cancer, or you don't.

Of course, you could just buy X number of 16-ounce beverages and thwart the mayor's evil scheme, but nothing says convenience like a two-litre Double Gulp, especially after all those salty fries and triple-decker cheese and bacon burgers.

Like every other discussion in the U.S., the battle lines are drawn around individual freedom. You either have the freedom to drink your face off and court obesity, diabetes, heart disease and cancer, or you don't.

New York's mayor argues that you don't, and is supported by the fact that the city faces an annual \$4-billion US price tag to handle the health problems of the obese.

The other guys say this is just the thin edge of the wedge and do you really want the government telling you what and how much to eat and drink? As someone who just spent a day at the PNE (Pacific National Exhibition) and managed to resist deep-fried Wagon Wheels and Mars bars, but stumbled over those cinnamon and sugar-encrusted mini-doughnuts, it's hard to disagree.

Where do you draw the line? Most of us are in favour of a balanced diet, but the diet and nutrition neighbourhood is not a safe place for moderates these days. Everything except lentils is bad for you, and you bet there's someone who can prove beyond a doubt that lentils cause cataracts, chancre sores and/or cancer. If Bloomberg can get big sugary drinks banned, what about those nasty lentils?

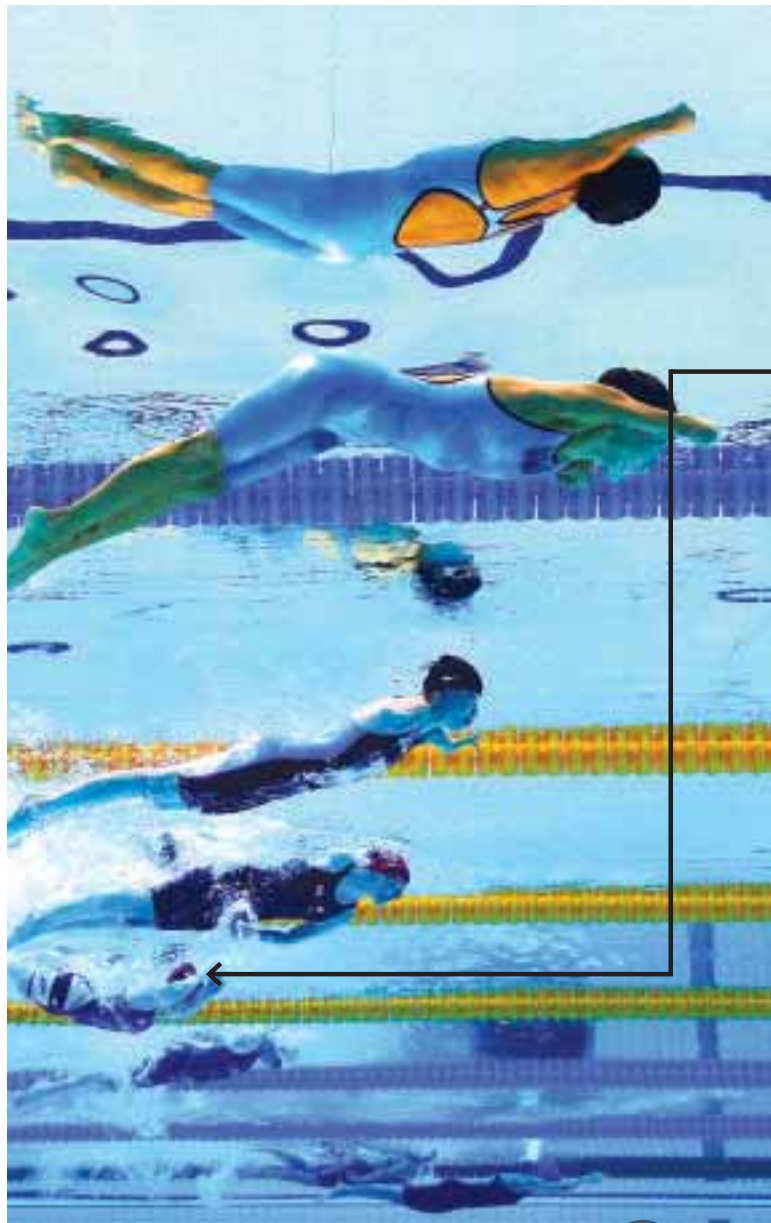
Still, more than one-third of U.S. adults (35.7 per cent) and 17 per cent of children and adolescents aged two to 19 years are obese. (The number is a little better in Canada — 23 per cent of adults.) Not "a little pudgy," or "could afford to lose a few pounds." Obese. And the crazy thing is we have the cure, which can be summarized in two words: eat less.

Sometimes in the war of words, less is more.



A man protests against New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg's proposal to ban sugary soft drinks over 16 ounces. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Can you spot the Piranha?



GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Paralympic sensation

Swim won in record time

This glorious image shows Paralympic swimmers taking off in the 200-metre medley SM6 category.

This race is for athletes who have lost limbs, have co-ordination problems or are considered dwarfs. It was won by British swimmer Eleanor (the Piranha) Simmonds — who suffers with dwarfism — in world-record time. Aged 17, it was her fourth Paralympic gold. **METRO**



The Piranha poses with her gold.

Underwater Olympic cam

- The L2012 camera races with the swimmers, and even tweets at the same time.

Streaking ahead

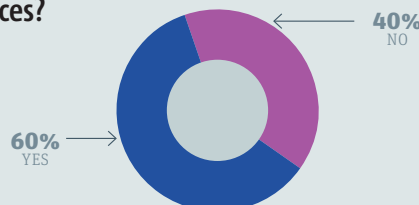
9

Simmonds finished the race nine seconds ahead of Germany's Verena Schott, who took silver, with another Briton, Natalie Jones, taking bronze. Simmonds set a new world-record time of 3:05:39.



Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Should the government regulate gas prices?



Twitter

@Labtech67:

Can you only make appointments one week in advance at the genius bar?

Happy first day of school #LdnOnt!! Remember, you get to meet some of your best friends for the 1st time today. :)

@jo_mAmA:

FYI: Hamilton Rd, east of Highbury, station selling gas at \$1.23. Nearly 6 cents cheaper than the rest. #LdnOnt

@hashtag_allie:

time to pack up the car, and go for the last mum and daughter mani/pedi date of summer, then its off to London to begin round 3 at #westernu

@Realtor_Otis:

The kids are back to school drive carefully #ldnont

@Keegs9393:

This unity is tooooooo hype #westernu

@NikkehSass:

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metro



Bradley Cooper stars in *The Words*, a film directed by his best friend Brian Klugman. HANDOUT

Cooper complicated in *The Words*

New film. Multi-layered flick follows a struggling writer's rise to fame and how he deals with decisions

NED
EHRBAR
Metro World News

For Bradley Cooper, signing on to star in *The Words* — co-written and co-directed by his childhood best friend, Brian Klugman — was a no-brainer. But that doesn't mean he was entirely comfortable actually playing Rory Jansen, a struggling writer who discovers a lost manuscript and passes it off as his own, leading to

overnight literary success.

"I was very scared that I was going to fail (Klugman and co-director/co-writer Lee Sternthal) when they asked me to do it," Cooper admits. "I said yes because I would do anything for them. Brian is my best buddy. It was a week before shooting, I was reading the script one last time, and he knew I was worried that I really didn't get Rory."

The multi-layered film follows Rory's rise to fame, his wife (Zoe Saldana) supporting him all the way while also telling the story recounted in the lost manuscript, a tragic love story set in post-Second World War Paris between a young American GI (Ben Barnes) and French woman (Nora Arnezeder). Framing all of that is an established au-

Quote

"It's much more complicated than a plagiarist who wants success."

Bradley Cooper
Talking about his character Rory Jansen

thor (Dennis Quaid) re-telling the entire tale, with a very interested listener (Olivia Wilde) pressing him for more details. The film itself gave Cooper a kind of thrill he hasn't necessarily gotten in a while and it "got me to places I didn't know I could get to," he says.

While the act of plagiarism at the heart of the plot may be tough for audiences to sympathize with, Cooper found a way of understanding

Rory's decision.

"It's much more complicated than a plagiarist who wants success. His goal is not to be a famous writer. His goal is to meet the expectations he has of himself," Cooper explains. "I don't see Rory as a slime-bag at all. I see him as a man who's not really a man and grappling with what it is to be a man. I think his Achilles heel is his impatience, and the thing I really liked about the script and the hook for me was the fact that he actually is a good writer. He's not a poor writer who's just looking for any way to get success, but he's just so preoccupied with living up to some idea who he thinks she should be. That's his fatal flaw."

Rory suffers his fair share

of rejection before stumbling upon the words that will make him famous, and Cooper himself admits he's no stranger to rejection as an actor — in fact, in his early days he was a little too used to it.

"When I first started auditioning, I didn't realize — and I'm not even kidding — that you actually could book a job," he says. "I still remember when I booked *Sex and the City*, I was actually very frightened because I had to actually do the job. I didn't really understand that concept. I was like, 'What do you mean, it's not a videotape in a room? We're actually going to be on the street, with Sarah Jessica Parker?' I came at it from another side where rejection was normal and getting it was odd."

2 SCENE

On the web



Former football star
Michael Strahan
becomes Kelly Ripa's
co-host of morning TV
show

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Michael Jackson

Jackson was a 'mess' during tour preparations

Michael Jackson was reportedly a mess during preparations for his *This Is It* tour in the weeks leading up to his death, according to 250 pages of emails between executives for AEG, the tour's backer, obtained by the L.A. Times. "MJ is locked in his room drunk and despondent," AEG's

Randy Phillips writes. "I [am] trying to sober him up." Phillips' attempts to get the singer to work apparently didn't go well: "I screamed at him so loud the walls are shaking," he writes. "He is an emotionally paralyzed mess riddled with self-loathing and doubt now that it is show time."

Klum not drawn into public dispute with ex

Seal may be getting a lot of attention from lambasting Heidi Klum for "deciding to fornicate with the help," but Klum is keeping it classy when it comes to her own comments. "I cherish all of the great memories Seal and I created together over the years. Our separation was based on issues between the two of us," Klum says in a statement to *Us Weekly*. "Seal has moved on and so have I. My priority has and continues to be protecting and providing for our children."

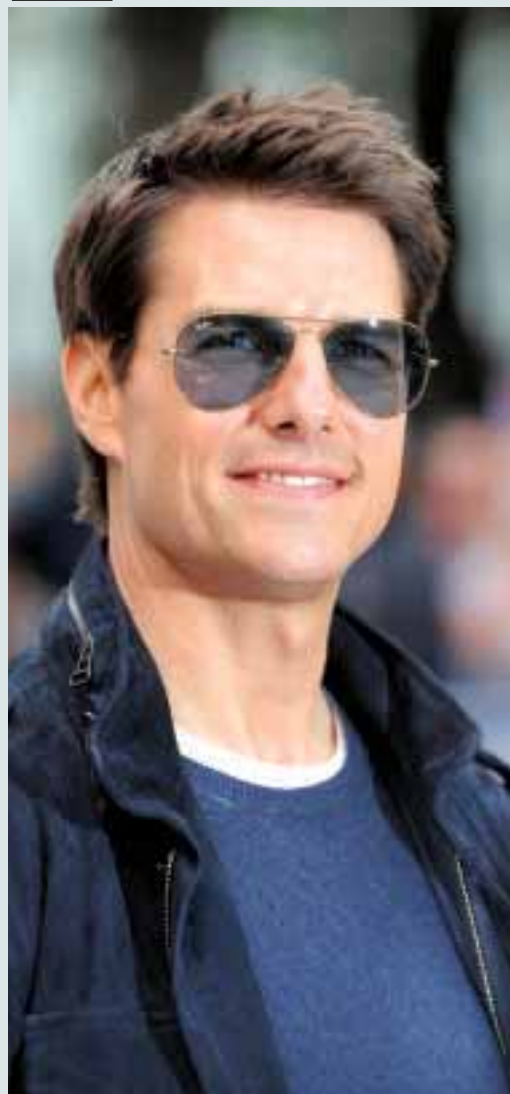


Seal and Heidi Klum

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Cruise too good for OKCupid

THE WORD
Monica Weymouth
scene@metronews.ca

Although Tom Cruise's reps have dismissed Vanity Fair's latest cover story as "lies designed to sell magazines," writer and director Paul Haggis has come out in support of the article, which alleges that the Church of Scientology acts as Cruise's creepy personal dating service.

In a letter to entertainment website Showbiz 411, Haggis, a former Sci-

entologist, confirms that the church thoroughly vetted Iranian actress Nazanin Boniadi in 2005, then ostracized and humiliated her when she wasn't deemed a suitable wife for the actor.

"I was deeply disturbed by how the highest-ranking members of a church could so easily justify using one of their members; how they so callously punished her and then so effectively silenced her when it was done," Haggis writes.

"It wasn't just the threats; they actually made her feel ashamed, when all she had been was human and trusting."

We're not sure what's so wrong with trusting, but human? Definite Cruise dealbreaker.



Minka Kelly

Minka Kelly rekindling romance with Human Torch

Avengers star Chris Evans and Minka Kelly have reportedly begun dating again, rekindling their romance that flickered briefly in 2007, according to *Us Weekly*.

"She did a number on him back then," a source says. "But she reached out to Chris this time." In the meantime, the actress dated

New York Yankees star Derek Jeter from 2008 to 2011.

While the pair have reportedly been hitting the town in Boston and New York in the past month, Evans' friends hope he takes it slow: "He's still a little insecure, so he's being cautious," a pal tells the magazine.

More ink for Biebs

Justin Bieber's tattoo addiction continues, as the 18-year-old singer debuted his latest work, a small crown on his chest, in a shirtless photo on Twitter. Bieber's other numerous tattoos include a portrait of Jesus on one leg and a pair of praying hands on the other, the Hebrew word for Jesus on his rib cage and the word "believe" on his forearm. The crown marks Bieber's seventh tattoo. He also took the chance to tease himself for posting so many topless photos of himself on Twitter, writing, "I'm thinking to myself 'wow really justin 3 shirtless pics in 3



Justin Bieber

days' who do I think I am a young [Mark Wahlberg]?"

Twitter



@kevinbacon

Me and my boy don't often do the suit and tie thing but weddings are a chance to dapper up!



@SandraBernhard

in lieu of shabbat i'll be listening to bon jovi's living on a prayer.



@JerrySeinfeld

Gotta go..



@SarahKSilverman

Gonna see what comes up when I google "Hitler fan fiction" Stand by

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Sure, the unofficial end of summer has passed but that doesn't mean you aren't still dreaming of a little beach time. You don't have to be a Hollywood megastar to vacation on your own private island. For the price of a night in a four star hotel, or less, you can live like Branson.

EMMA E FORREST
travel@metronews.ca

Wilson Island, Australia

Where? Great Barrier Reef, Queensland, Australia
What? This tiny tropical coral dot of sand in the Great Barrier Reef is probably the most romantic campsite in the world, with six luxury tents placed steps away from silvery sands that melt into the azure sea where you can explore a whole reef full of colourful marine life. Spend all day languishing in a hammock, go snorkeling or kayaking and by night compare notes over a moonlit dinner of fresh fish in the communal dining area.

For how many? 12
Exclusive rental? From \$391 each per night, including all meals and drinks.
wilsonisland.com.au,
Book through tailor-made.co.uk.



5 private islands

Fort Clonque

Where? Alderney, Channel Islands, United Kingdom
What? If you're looking for character in your private island then this pocket-sized historic fortress is a great one, linked by a causeway to the island of Alderney in the Channel Islands, about 24 km from the north-eastern tip of France. Fort Clonque was built on a group of rocks just off Alderney in the mid-19th Century and discovered by Hitler in 1940 who reformed it with a vast casement for a huge gun, which was transformed into an elegant bedroom when it was refurbished in the late 1960s.
For how many? 13
Exclusive rental? \$1,000 for four nights self-catering. landmarktrust.org.uk



Fowl Quay, Bahamas

Where? Exumas, Bahamas
What? Make like Johnny Depp with your own private Bahamas island hideaway. This 50-acre family-owned retreat has six luxury one-, two- and three-bedroom ocean-facing villas each with amazing views over the crystalline azure sea, and their own motorboat to explore it with. Book the island exclusively and you can loaf on a different secluded silvery beach each day, snorkel in the



local reef and sip cocktails.
For how many? 26
Exclusive rental? \$450 each per night including international flights to Nassau, all meals, drinks, watersports, personal motorboat and golf cart.
fowl-cay.co.uk.

Orca Island, USA

Where? Humpy Cove, Resurrection Bay, Alaska
What? Come to this pristine corner of Alaska for a serious digital detox and commune with nature: this place is off-grid, so there's no mobile phone signal and each of the five cabins here is solar-powered. You're far from roughing it, though. Each self-catering cabin has a bathroom, luxurious queen bedroom and kitchen. There's even a barbecue on the deck, so you can cook freshly-caught salmon while you look out for local sea lions, puffins, seals and migratory whales. Spend your days kayaking, hiking, fishing or just chilling out in this Alaskan wilderness.
For how many? 20
Exclusive rental? From \$176 each per night including lodging, water taxi to the property, unlimited use of kayaks, row-boat and fishing gear.
orcaislandcabins.com



Ariara, Philippines

Where? Calamian Islands, Palawan, Philippines, 250 km South-West of Manila.
What? This unspoiled 125-acre tropical island is run like the millionaire's retreat that it is. Hire it exclusively and you'll stay in this luxurious haven with 30 members of staff including a manager to keep things running smoothly, a PADI Dive Instructor to take you swimming with turtles and a personal chef to cook you lobster fresh from the sea. Spend days drinking cocktails on the silky white sand beach, snack on fruit picked on the island, snorkel in your own private protected reef or use some of the water-sports toys. **For how many?** 18
Exclusive rental? From \$295 each per night low season for a group of 15 to 18 guests including all meals, and two dives per person.
ariara.island.com
dresortgrenadines.com

3 FREE

On the web



Lincoln Memorial reflecting pool in Washington has reopened after 2-year, \$34M reconstruction



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olg.ca OLG

The sound of music, in B.C. wine country

Growing concert scene. Musicians and fans are learning there's nothing better than a pretty venue and a glass of wine

When the president of Cedar Creek Estate Winery first started hosting concerts at his Okanagan vineyard and inviting musicians to perform there nine summers ago, many prominent Canadian artists wouldn't give him the time of day.

After all, a 350-seat venue — a pavilion under the open sky and surrounded by rows upon rows of lush green grape vines, no less — hardly seemed like an attractive offer to the agents of singers such as award-winning Canadian singer-songwriter Chantal Kreviazuk, who is used to performing at larger venues, said Gordon Fitzpatrick.

"The first concert we did, we didn't even have chairs, people brought blankets," he said, laughing. "My son, who wasn't very old at the time, still hasn't forgiven me . . . the band was a bunch of middle-aged women with harps."

Cedar Creek has come a



Chantal Kreviazuk performed at Cedar Creek Estate Winery in Kelowna, B.C., in August. HANDOUT, THE CANADIAN PRESS

long way since that summer, when Fitzpatrick decided he wanted to follow the footsteps of wineries in Washington state and in California's Napa Valley and start offering concerts, too.

Over the years, he has hosted Jim Cuddy of Blue Rodeo three times, and Chantal Kreviazuk performed this summer at the winery's pavilion for the second time. This year's Polaris Music Prize nominee Kathleen Edwards was also a guest a few years ago.

It was the exquisite wine offerings, the stunning Okanagan

scenery, summer weather and the intimate and interactive venue that convinced them all to come, said Fitzpatrick.

Those same elements, plus the relaxing atmosphere, the romantic ambience and great music, are also drawing plenty of locals and tourists to British Columbia's wine country every year. "You can imagine a glass of Cedar Creek Pinot gris in one hand, and listening to Chantal Kreviazuk, it makes for a very memorable evening," Fitzpatrick said.

Every year the winery hosts

several concerts in the summer, and all proceeds go to Kelowna's Rotary Centre for the Performing Arts.

Fitzpatrick says concert tickets, which range from \$50 to \$95 each, tend to sell out within two or three days. Wine sales also go up significantly during performance days.

"We do \$5,000 or \$6,000 worth of business on a regular week day at the winery during the summer," he said.

"We come close to doubling that on concert evenings just on wine sales."

But the Kelowna winery isn't the only one in B.C. to host musical talent and benefit from the resulting spike in wine and dinner sales during the summer.

Mission Hill Family Estate Winery in west Kelowna boasts a 1,000-seat, dramatically sloped amphitheatre. Since the property is located in a valley, the sound quality is second to none, according to Kelowna-based arts critic Glenna Turnbull. For at least \$90 a ticket, visitors can watch artists such as Grammy nominee and

Take a picture

Tunes, interrupted

Kelowna-based arts critic Glenna Turnbull says that the musicians often get swept away by the Okanagan scenery at the Mission Hill Family Estate Winery in west Kelowna.

"The last couple of performers I've seen had pulled out their cameras in the middle of the set, said 'Excuse me,' and turned around and took a picture of what the audience sees — the view of the lake — because they just can't believe how gorgeous it is where they're performing," she said.

award-winning jazz artist Chris Botti perform against the backdrop of the vineyard.

"There's just something magical about being outside on an Okanagan evening and staring out into the lake and listening to good music and drinking good wine," said Turnbull.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Back-to-school Blueberry-Banana Waffle breakfast boost

The best way to start the day is with a good nutritious breakfast, and you can't get much more fun in the morning than with waffles.

This recipe can easily be made in a big batch, days ahead and frozen. During busy Monday to Friday mornings, just pop frozen home-made waffles in the toaster for a grab-and-go breakfast for the kids. Children will probably only eat half a waffle.

Serve them with pure Canadian maple syrup, honey, jam or even yogurt.

If you don't have barley flour, you can substitute with the same amount of all-purpose or whole wheat flour.

1. In bowl, whisk all-purpose flour, barley flour, wheat germ, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt. In another bowl, whisk together buttermilk and eggs. Combine wet and dry mixtures; stirring to combine. Fold in butter.

2. Fold in bananas and blueberries until blended.

3. Fill your waffle iron with approx 1 cup (250 ml) of batter per waffle. Cook until golden and cooked through, about 5 minutes. Transfer waffles to baking sheet and keep warm in 200 F (100 C) oven until ready to serve.

Blueberry-Banana Waffles



This recipe makes four large waffles. EGG FARMERS OF ONTARIO

4. Keep waffles in one layer to keep crisp. Continue with step 3 until remaining batter is finished. If freezing,

let waffles cool completely, double wrap in plastic wrap, label and freeze for up to 3 weeks. EGG FARMERS OF ONTARIO

Ingredients

- 1-1/2 cups (375 ml) all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) barley flour
- 1/4 cup (50 ml) wheat germ
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) granulated sugar
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) baking powder
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) baking soda
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt
- 1 cup (250 ml) buttermilk
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1/4 cup (50 ml) butter, melted
- 2 ripe bananas, mashed
- 1 cup (250 ml) blueberries (if using frozen, blueberries should be thawed and drained)

Muffin Frittatas: Great start — even on the run

September is a busy month! It is that time of year for families to get back to schedules, school and activities.

These frittatas are made in muffin tins for an easy grab-and-go, or sit down friendly. The perfect portions are packed with protein from the eggs and vegetables.

Ingredients

- 30 ml (2 tbsp) butter
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) dried oregano
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) salt
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) freshly ground pepper
- 1 sweet red pepper, seeded and chopped
- 1 small zucchini, chopped
- 1 tomato, chopped
- 125 g (4 oz) chopped smoked turkey (about 125 ml/1/2 cup)
- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) all-purpose flour
- 10 ml (2 tsp) baking powder
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) 2 per cent milk
- 4 eggs
- 500 ml (2 cups) shredded Swiss cheese
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) minced fresh parsley (optional)



This recipe makes 12 mini frittatas. EGG FARMERS OF ONTARIO

1. In a large skillet, heat butter over medium-high heat; add onion, oregano, salt and pepper. Cook, stirring, until onion is softened, about 3 minutes. Add red pepper and zucchini; continue cooking until vegetables are softened, about 4 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in tomatoes and smoked turkey. Set aside.

2. Meanwhile, in a bowl, whisk flour and baking powder together. In another bowl, whisk milk and eggs. Stir dry and wet ingredients together.

Fold in vegetable mixture, cheese and parsley, if using. Stir gently to combine.

3. Using a 125-ml (1/2-cup) measure, fill 12 paper mini-muffin cups placed in a muffin tin.

4. Bake in a 220 C (425 F) oven until puffed, firm and golden, about 25 minutes. Let cool slightly before removing from tin. (Make-ahead: wrap individually and refrigerate for up to 3 days; re-warm as needed.)

EGG FARMERS OF ONTARIO

Drink of the Week

Caramelized Brown Sugar Banana Milkshake

- 1 tbsp butter
- 2 tbsp brown sugar
- 2 bananas, peeled and halved lengthwise
- 2 cups milk
- 1 cup vanilla ice cream
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- Pinch of salt

In skillet over medium heat, melt butter. Sprinkle in brown sugar and stir until bubbling. Add bananas, reduce heat to low and cook 3 mins., or until evenly browned. Use spatula to turn bananas and brown on other side for 3 mins. Remove skillet from heat and let cool 15 mins. Once cooled, use silicone spatula to scrape bananas and any liquid and caramelized bits in the skillet into a blender. Add milk, ice

cream, cinnamon

and salt. Purée until very smooth.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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ISHANI NATH

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Some say you only have two options in life: go big or go home. But when it comes to the environment, the only option may be to go green so we can have a home for years to come.

Whether you believe in climate change or not, the fact is that we have treated Mother Earth worse than that ratty old teddy bear from your childhood.

We've neglected her, put her through the ringer, and destroyed her with chemicals and toxins to the point that she's in need of a solid repair job.

While climate change may be impacting the entire globe, each country is reacting to environmental shifts differently.

What exactly is a "green job"?

Green jobs in Canada are still in their awkward teenage years — they're still trying to figure out exactly who and what they are.

According to a report by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), countries such as Germany, Finland, Korea, Portugal and, most recently, the United States have officially defined what is considered a "green job" in their nations and thereby recognized their growing environmental sectors.

Canada, on the other hand, still has some growing up to do. What constitutes a "green job" in our home and native land is currently undefined, so the term tends to encompass the various industries and occupations that deal with the environment.

For lack of official national definitions, ECO Canada recently defined a number of green career terms in their Defining the Green Economy: Labour Market Research Study.

Here are some of the key terms from that study that every student and recent grad who is planning to start a green career should know:

Green economy

All activity operating with

A friendlier future

While the green industry may still be trying to figure out its identity, it is growing up quickly.

- According to the 2006 census, the current green workforce is made up of approximately 640,000 Canadians and equals four per cent of our country's total labour force.



Green employers have listed keeping up to date on green trends and issues, and specific environmental training education as skills that will be in high demand over the next few years. ISTOCK

the primary intention of reducing conventional levels of resource consumption, harmful emissions, and minimizing all forms of environmental impact. The green economy includes the inputs, activities, outputs and outcomes as they relate to the production of green products and services.

Green organization

An organization (in any industry) that produces goods or services designed to minimize environmental impact.

Green job

A job that works directly with information, technologies, or materials that

minimize environmental impact, and also requires specialized skills, knowledge, training, or experience related to these areas.

Green skills

The knowledge, training or experience as they relate to technologies or materials that minimize environmental impact.

ISHANI NATH IS A PROUD MCMASTER UNIVERSITY ALUMNAE, ASPIRING WRITER AND CURRENT JOURNALISM GRAD STUDENT AT RYERSON UNIVERSITY.

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Giants, Cowboys to renew rivalry in season opener

NFL. Champion Giants seek to silence critics, while Cowboys want redemption and fresh outlook in 2012-13

A good start is what is on the line this time when the New York Giants host the Dallas Cowboys in the NFL season opener.

The stakes were much greater the last time the NFC

East foes faced off to close the last regular season. New York won to claim the division title en route to the Super Bowl title. Dallas was left out of the post-season.

On Wednesday night at MetLife Stadium, the winner will take the early upper hand in the divisional race.

For the Super Bowl champion Giants, this will be a chance to silence the critics and detractors who have sounded off repeatedly after they beat the New England Patriots in

February to claim their second title in five seasons.

The Giants heard it all. They were lucky to get into the playoffs with a 9-7 record. They really didn't beat the Packers or 49ers, they were just handed the games.

That is now over.

The goal for Tom Coughlin's players is to show they have constructed that bridge the 65-year-old coach urged them to build to link their late-season 6-0 run to the title to the 2012 campaign.

"The leadership we have on this football team, that's going to be the spine of the bridge, if you will," defensive captain Justin Tuck said. "I think we're in a good place as far as where we want to be coming into the game."

The Giants are confident, and they don't care what outsiders are saying about them.

"We've already showed people who we are," safety Antrel Rolle said. "We can care less about that."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cowboys' goals

- Jerry Jones' Cowboys face a much different task after an 8-8 campaign that ended with an embarrassing 31-14 loss to the Giants on New Year's Day.
- The outspoken owner knows the window for the aging Cowboys to return to the franchise's glory years are fading fast.



Top seed Azarenka out-duels defending champion Stosur

Victoria Azarenka returns a shot against Samantha Stosur during their women's quarter-finals match, Tuesday, in New York. Top-ranked Azarenka was pushed to the limit by the defending champion Stosur before winning in a third-set tiebreaker. ELSA/GETTY IMAGES

Paralympics. Canada's Mortimer wins 2nd gold

Summer Mortimer has her second gold medal of the London Paralympics, and once again she won in record style.

The Hamilton native won the women's S10 backstroke in a world-record time of one minute 5.90 seconds.

Mortimer also won gold in the 50-metre freestyle event in world-record time last week.

"This feels absolutely amazing," said Mortimer, who also won a silver medal in the 200 individual medley earlier at the Games. "I haven't been that fast since I was abled bodied."

"To be able to beat my



Summer Mortimer on the podium after winning the women's S10 100m backstroke on Tuesday. GETTY IMAGES

times from when I was 14-15 years-old is amazing."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tennis

Raonic to lead Canada's Davis Cup team

Milos Raonic will lead Canada into its Davis Cup tie against South Africa later this month.

The Thornhill, Ont., native, who lost to Andy Murray in the fourth round at the U.S. Open on Monday, will be joined by veteran doubles player Daniel Nestor of Toronto, Frank Dancevic of Niagara Falls and Vancouver's Vasek Pospisil.

The best-of-five World Group playoff is set for Sept. 14-16 at Uniprix Stadium in Montreal. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL. Luongo prefers being traded to Florida

Roberto Luongo says it just "makes sense" for him to return to the Florida Panthers.

The Vancouver Canucks goaltender, who is awaiting a trade after losing his No. 1 job to Cory Schneider, skated near his off-season home on Tuesday and made it clear during an interview with the South Florida Sun Sentinel that his preference was to return to the Panthers.

"(Florida) makes sense for myself, for my career and my family," Luongo told the paper. "That being said, there's obvious other options as well. This is a preferred location for obvious reasons

Contract

The 33-year-old Luongo has 10 years remaining on his contract at a cap hit of \$5.33 million US and holds a no-trade clause.

but I'm not shutting the door on other possibilities if it comes up."

Luongo spent five seasons in Florida between 2001 and 2006, when he was dealt to Vancouver. He and his wife return to the area every summer with their young children. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mobile sports



Murderball remains a calling card for wheelchair rugby years after it was in theatres.

The documentary featuring the Canadian and U.S. teams was a raw, unflinching look at the lives of wheelchair athletes in a sport as laden with testosterone as the able-bodied version. Scan the code for the story.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 SPORTS

Veloster packs on some muscle



ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

Hyundai Veloster Turbo

- **Type.** Three-door, front-wheel-drive compact sport sedan.
- **Engine (hp):** 1.6-litre DOHC I4, turbocharged (201).
- **Mileage:** L/100 km: (city/hwy) 7.9/5.2 (MT).
- **Base Price (incl. destination):** \$27,500.

Seating

Accessing the rear seat through the rear passenger-side door is awkward for adults, owing to the sloping roof, but, once aboard, the seats are hospitable enough as long as those in front exercise due consideration for the legs of those in back. The generous cargo area is long and deep enough to hold a camping trip's worth of gear.



The Turbo boasts standard leather-covered seating.

Different look and feel

To differentiate the Turbo, the grille and rear-valence opening are much bigger, there's different sill cladding as well as 18-inch wheels with a chrome inlay (regular Velosters use 17-inch wheels). The artsy taillights and headlights are also different and are worth a careful inspection.

Hyundai has tweaked the

suspension to a point where, from the driver's perspective, it's hard to imagine the Turbo was ever derived from the original. The tighter underpinnings and recalibrated (faster-acting) steering mean improved vehicle control and reduced body lean when cornering. And, when compared to the 2012 model we drove last fall, the Turbo has a much smoother ride.

Review. You loved the look — now, you will love the drive

MALCOLM GUNN

Wheelbase Media

Is the sleek and slippery Veloster Turbo the kind of soul-stirring ride that would make you leverage your credit just to park one in your driveway?

The answer to that is likely yes, especially if appearing cucumber-cool in this finely tailored Hyundai for a less-than-princely sum is how you want to roll.

The now-in-stock Turbo is the latest take on the Korea-based automaker's base Veloster that created quite a stir when it launched last fall for the 2012 model year.

The entry-priced fastback/hatchback/wagon/sporty machine has left its cookie-cutter competition in the dust and the unique single-

driver's-side door/double-passenger-side door design is the asymmetrical punctuation mark to a car that defies convention or comparison.

But if there's one detectable shortcoming, it's the base 138-horsepower four-cylinder engine — shared with the Accent, among other Hyundai offerings — that delivers impressive fuel economy, but is ultimately not a match for the sporty image that the body projects.

Cue the Veloster Turbo, with a turbocharged 1.6-litre engine that improves output to 201 horsepower.

Just as important, the torque rating shoots to 195 pound-feet from 123. And unlike some other turbocharged vehicles out there, the engine is designed to run on regular gas instead of premium.

The well-equipped Veloster Turbo rings in at \$27,500, including destination charges, or about \$6,500 more than the base model.

All in all, it's definitely worth the upgrade.



Aside from leather seats with contrasting colours, it's basically the same tidy interior as the base Veloster.



On one hand, we love the long driver's door that makes getting in and out a cinch. On the other, the rear passenger door makes it easy to get the kiddies in and out.

By comparison



1 Mini Cooper Clubman S
Base price: \$30,550



2 Subaru WRX hatchback
Base price: \$35,000



3 Chevrolet Sonic LTZ
Base price: \$22,500

On the Web



Scan code for more car reviews and news

Designated texter the new auto-safety superhero

Autopilot



AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

The designated driver concept works like a charm, so not surprising that the concept of the designated texter is gaining traction.

But I'm wondering about this: designated drivers have to be licensed and sober. Designated texters just have to be "not driving" and sitting in your car, a pretty low bar of qualifications.

What if they can't spell necessary words like imbecile and subpoena? What if they routinely mix up terms like self-deprecating and self-defecating?

What if they have good vocabulary, grammar, and punctuation, but have the emotional IQ of a walnut?

What if they're drunk and always had a thing for your main squeeze? Shouldn't there be some kind of screening process to make sure your personal correspondences

Texting and driving facts

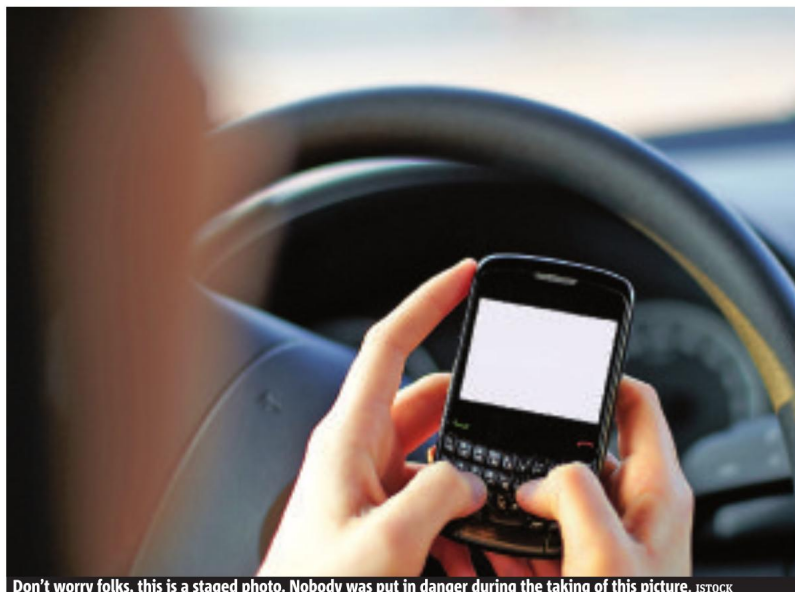
- 5 seconds is the average time your eyes are off the road while texting.
- When travelling at 88 km/h, that's enough time to cover the length of a football field.
- A texting driver is 23 times more likely to get into a crash than a non-texting driver.
- 34 per cent of teens who drive while distracted simply say they're used to multi-tasking.

STOPTEXTSTOPWRECKS.ORG

won't be comprised?

In the long run, however, I guess those issues are minor when you consider what's at stake. According to the U.S. campaign called Stop the Texts. Stop the Wrecks, a texting driver is 23 times more likely to get into a crash than a non-texting driver.

The campaign was created by a team of several U.S. safety groups last year, and just recently created a series



Don't worry folks, this is a staged photo. Nobody was put in danger during the taking of this picture. ISTOCK

of public safety announcements featuring an actual scene from Glee, the popular TV series about singing high schoolers. In the spot, Dianna Agron's character, Quinn Fabray, crashes her car as a direct result of texting and driving.

You can see the spot at

either Distraction.gov or StopTextsStopWrecks.org.

The latter is one of the first places to use the term "designated texter" and to promote its use, in their Tips section. Some tips are painfully obvious, like, "When you're in the car, put the phone where

you can't get it," and "Turn the notifications off."

Another tip was extremely not obvious to me: "An app can help you stop texting." Apparently there is an app for that ...

But "Designate a texter" is the one with the most poten-

tial for humorous calamity, so that's the one I'm really getting behind.

Whatever your choice — or choices — doesn't matter, as long as you're with the program, and maybe even advocating about it a bit.

Teens are especially vulnerable, because they text the most, and are the most inexperienced drivers.

That generation also has the most fundamental and substantial umbilical cord to texting. To them it's like breathing.

John Voelcker of Green Car Reports recently noted a conversation he had with a GM engineering executive looking into distraction and driving.

The GM man told Voelcker that most of the young people who were being surveyed by the automaker on this issue were confused by the questions, and eventually had to set GM straight.

You don't understand, they said, it's not the device that is distracting me from driving, it's the driving that is distracting me from what I would rather be doing, which is using the device (for communicating).

Wow.

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Ford's robot measures the human touch

Driving Force. RUTH acts as a 'translator' for automaker's engineers

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

When it comes to how a car should "feel," automakers have often played a guessing game — at least, up until now. At Ford, a robot named RUTH pokes and prods new models to see if they're up to the standards that customers expect, and gives engineers the technical information needed to put that into the

final product.

"We use RUTH to translate the voice of the customer, and to validate that we have delivered on our promise," says Eileen Franko, craftsmanship supervisor at Ford Motor Company in Dearborn, Michigan.

"It's a first of its kind here in North America."

RUTH, which stands for Robotized Unit for Tactility and Haptics, was first used by Ford in Europe, and since January has been working at the company's North American operations. She's basically a giant arm with six joints, and her job is to push buttons, poke the seats, and "use" the interior as a person would. By doing this, she assesses how hard or soft

materials are to the touch, sees if switches and controls have a quality feel, and takes measurements of such subjective things as comfort and temperature, and if surfaces feel rough or smooth.

While the company still uses real people to sit in the cars and determine how everything feels, RUTH uses their input to provide mathematical data that can be accurately translated throughout the car's development, right down to the final assembly line.

"When you work with engineers, you can't just say 'too hard, too soft, too shiny,'" Franko says. "You need to speak in engineering metrics, to translate that voice of the cus-

tomers — the feedback that we get — into engineering metrics to design the quality into the product."

Designing a vehicle always starts with computer models, which are used to develop the final product. RUTH is used both in the creative process and in the validation process, where actual vehicles and parts are made for testing to ensure that the computer models were correct. By poking a padded dash, for example, RUTH measures the deflection, ensuring that it feels "right" — not too hard, and not too soft.

"We don't completely remove the human touch," Franko says. "It's all about touch, feel, and quality."



Ford's RUTH pushes a button to measure how it will feel to the customer.
FORD MOTOR COMPANY

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Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

Listen to your conscience and act on what it tells you. You know from past experience that if you ignore your inner voice you are likely to regret it. Why tempt fate when so many things are going right for you?

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

The Sun in the most positive area of your chart means if there is something you want or someone you desire, now is the time to make your play. There can be no more excuses: get on with it!

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

If there is something you can do for a friend or family member then do it and don't think of the cost. When you do a good deed, you make it more likely that good things will come back to you.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

Facts and figures must come first today, both in your personal life and at work. Other people's hard luck stories may move you to tears but how do you know they are telling the truth? Do your own checks.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

There are times when it all seems to come together and while you may not quite have reached such a time yet it cannot be far away. Look out for pointers over the next 24 hours — and follow them.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Make the most of the Sun in your sign to start a new phase in your life, one that builds on the experiences of previous events and experiences. If there is something you truly desire, start working towards it now.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

The Sun remains in the most sensitive area of your chart for the next three weeks or so, which means you need to be positive and you need to be kind to yourself. Don't worry. Everything will work out fine.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You might be tempted to say what you think other people want to hear but both you and they will regret it later on. Today's Mercury-Mars link urges you to be brutally honest. Don't skimp on the truth.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Be nice to those who might be able to further your career interests in some way. Even if they are not really your kind of people, it won't hurt to get on their good side — in a dignified way, of course.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

This is a good time to be on the move, especially if you are the kind of Capricorn who gets bored with the same old faces and places. If you can arrange a vacation at short notice then go for it now.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

According to the planets, time is running out on a project that should have been finished by now. You can still get it done but you have got to put it at the top of your To Do list — and then do it.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

You will find it easier to reach your goals if you team up with someone who shares your general outlook on life. You don't have to agree on everything — in fact your differences will bring balance to the relationship.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Stuff and Nonsense

Across

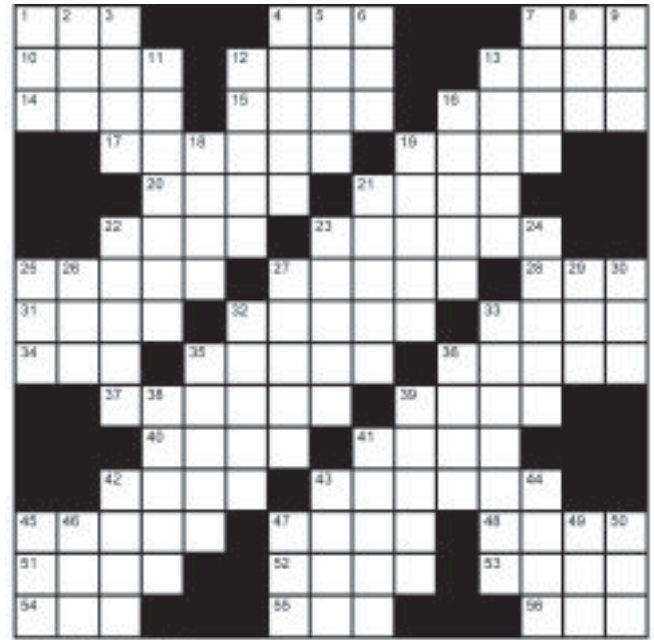
1. Winnipeg's ___ River
4. Male youngster
7. Lie
10. Dump water overboard
12. '60s sitcom star Dick Van ___
13. Call at home plate
14. Ontario tribe
15. Outfit recently re-named from Canadian Forces Air Command, for short
16. Armed robbery
17. Harper group
19. "I'm unable to do it"
20. Ontario-born *Scream* star Campbell
21. Is worthwhile
22. "___ the Last Dance for Me"
23. Ontario-born Howie of *Deal or No Deal*
25. Gasoline unit
27. Approach harvestability
28. *Porgy and Bess* lyricist Gershwin
31. Popular music player
32. Crapshooter's boxcars
33. Castle barrier
34. Also
35. Alberta NHLer
36. 1,000 kilograms
37. Margot ___: Yellow-knife-born Lois Lane portrayer in four *Superman* movies
39. Hand-held holers
40. Auctioneer's final word
41. Bigoted attitude
42. Feeling down
43. Bay surrounded by Nunavut, Manitoba, On

tario, Québec

45. "___ words were never spoken"
47. TV, familiarly
48. ___ Scotia
51. Rowboat equipment
52. Slippery fish
53. Be apropos for
54. Debussy's "La ___" ("The Sea")
55. Watch
56. ___ Gamgee: unwilling visitor to Mordor

Down

1. Bank founded in 1864 in Halifax: initialism
2. Corn unit
3. Calorie watch
4. French high school
5. Aliases
6. ___ Leppard
7. ___ accompli: done deed
8. "No ___, ands, or butts!"
9. Wager
11. Montréal singer-poet Cohen most known for "Suzanne"
12. A: or C:, on a computer
13. Sixth ___: ESP
16. "The Creation" composer Franz Joseph
18. French dream
19. Christmas tree candy hangings
21. *Metro*, for one
22. Bale of hay or straw, in the Prairie Provinces
23. Boy-meets-girl event
24. CFL West Division team
25. Ignited



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26. Big event for a dot-com: initialism
27. Angered
29. Became a candidate
30. Consumed
32. Move like a crab
33. ___ Canadian (beer)
35. Smell
36. "___ the night before Christmas ..."
38. Archipelago compon-

- ents
39. Assistants
41. BC-born pop singer Michael
42. Raymond ___: New Westminster, BC-born Perry Mason portrayer
43. Louie and Dewey's brother
44. Entre ___: between us
45. Stray cat

46. Edmonton-born actress ___ Dawn Chong, daughter of Tommy
47. Casual wear
49. ___ Rail Canada
50. Cash cache

Yesterday's Crossword



What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.



Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

7	5	6	4	1	2	3	9	8
9	4	1	8	5	3	7	5	2
8	2	3	9	7	5	6	4	1
4	7	9	8	5	1	2	3	5
1	3	5	2	4	9	8	7	6
6	8	2	3	5	7	4	1	9
3	9	4	1	2	8	5	6	7
2	6	7	5	9	4	1	8	3
5	1	8	7	3	6	9	2	4

			9		8	2	7	
		6					4	
	8			4		3		
			5		2			
8	9		1	3		5	6	
		7		9				
	5		9			4		
2					1			
7	3	1		8				



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